

Remarks

This Preliminary Amendment cancels without prejudice original claims 1 to 16 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE01/00690 and adds without prejudice new claims 17 to 34 . The new claims, *inter alia*, conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add new matter to the application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), the Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without the claims) contains no new matter. The amendments reflected in the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) are to conform the Specification and Abstract to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules or to correct informalities. As required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3)(iii) and § 1.125(b)(2), a Marked Up Version Of The Substitute Specification comparing the Specification of record and the Substitute Specification also accompanies this Preliminary Amendment. Approval and entry of the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) is respectfully requested.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE01/00690 includes an International Search Report, dated August 20, 2001. The Search Report includes a list of documents that were uncovered in the underlying PCT Application. A copy of the Search Report accompanies this Preliminary Amendment.

Applicants assert that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Please add the following new claims:

--17. (New) A device for measuring at least one parameter of a medium flowing in a main direction of flow in a line, comprising:

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a measuring element circumflowed by the medium and positioned in the line; and
at least one constriction configured to produce acoustic disturbances and positioned in the line;

wherein the constriction includes a mechanical-acoustic prevention element.

18. (New) The device according to claim 17, wherein the at least one parameter includes to a mass flow.

19. (New) The device according to claim 18, wherein the mass flow includes an intake air mass flow of an internal combustion engine.

20. (New) The device according to claim 17, further comprising at least one element positioned in the line and configured to reduce an impact of one of fluid and solid particles on the measuring element.

21. (New) The device according to claim 20, wherein the element configured to reduce the impact of one of fluid and solid particles includes a tubular body having a flow channel through which the medium flows, the measuring element being located in the tubular body.

22. (New) The device according to claim 20, wherein the element configured to reduce the impact of one of fluid and solid particles includes a protective screen located in one of the line and the tubular body.

23. (New) The device according to claim 17, wherein each prevention element includes a radial elevation arranged along a radial circumferential line of the line.

24. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein the radial elevation includes a rectangular cross-section arranged at a right angle to the main direction of flow.

25. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein the radial elevation includes a trapezoidal cross-section arranged at a right angle to the main direction of flow.

26. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein the radial elevation includes one of an oval and a circular cross-section arranged at a right angle to the main direction of flow.

27. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein radial elevations are evenly spaced in relation to one another along a radial circumferential line of the line.

28. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein radial elevations have a same shape.

29. (New) The device according claim 17, wherein the line includes a center line, the acoustic prevention element including an aperture provided in the line and having a radial limiting line, a radial distance between the radial limiting line and the center line varying in a radial circumferential direction.

30. (New) The device according to claim 29, wherein the radial limiting line of the aperture is wave-shaped.

31. (New) The device according to claim 17, wherein the at least one prevention element is rounded against the main direction of flow.

32. (New) The device according to claim 17, further comprising a flow straightener provided in the line and integrated into a rigid conduit that is insertable into the line, the at least one prevention element provided as a single unit on the rigid conduit.

33. (New) The device according to claim 17, wherein the at least one prevention element is provided as a single unit on a rigid conduit that is insertable into the line.

34. (New) The device according to claim 17, wherein the at least one prevention element is configured as a single unit with a wall of the line.--.